

#### Alton Coal Development, LLC

463 North 100 West, Suite 1 Cedar City, Utah 84720 Phone (435) 867-5331 • Fax (435) 867-1192 C6025/005 Incoming & cc: Kn1

Date: September 23, 2011

Daron R. Haddock Coal Program Manager Oil, Gas & Mining 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801

Subject:

Pre-Blasting Survey of the Swapp and Sorenson Ranch; Alton Coal Development LLC,

Coal Hollow Mine, C/025/0005

Dear Mr. Haddock,

Alton Coal Development, LLC is providing the enclosed Pre-Blasting Surveys of the Swapp and Sorenson Ranches as per the requirements of the MRP Chapter 5 section 524.300-350. A copy has been provided to the owners of these properties.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely

B. Kirk Nicholes Resident Agent

RECEIVED

SEP 26 2011

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

File in:

Confidential

# PRE-BLASTING SURVEY SORENSEN RANCH FOR ALTON COAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC COAL HOLLOW MINE

BY
DAN W. GUY, P.E.
AUGUST 2, 2011

**RECEIVED** 

SEP 26 2011

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I, Dan W. Guy, a Registered Professional Engineer, State of Utah No. 154168, do hereby certify that I have conducted the pre-blasting survey on the Sorensen Ranch structures herein described. This survey was conducted in accordance with the State of Utah Coal Mining Rules, R645-301-524.300 through R645-301-524.350. The information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Dan W. Guy

8/2/11

**Date** 



#### PRE-BLASTING SURVEY

#### **SORENSEN RANCH**

#### **Introduction**

A pre-blasting survey was conducted on the structures at the Sorensen Ranch on August 2, 2011 for the Alton Coal Development, LLC Coal Hollow Mine. The survey was conducted by Dan W. Guy, a registered professional engineer in the State of Utah, P.E. No. 154168. Alton Coal Development was represented by Mr. B. Kirk Nicholes, Environmental Specialist. The property owners, Mr. DarLynn Sorensen and Mrs. Arlene Sorensen were present throughout the survey. This pre-blasting survey was conducted in accordance with, and per the requirements of, State of Utah Coal Mining Rules, R645-301-524.300 through R645-301-524.350.

#### **General**

The Sorensen Ranch structures are located within one-half mile of the Coal Hollow Mine permit area, as shown on Plate 1 of this report. The structures examined are as follows:

- 1-Ranch House
- 2-Guest House
- 3-Shed/Garage
- 4-Barn
- 5-Granary
- 6-Trailer(s)
- 7-Artesian Well

The structures are shown on Plate 2 of this report; however, the 2 trailers and well are not described on the map. All structures are located in an open and relatively flat area, which minimizes the potential for damage from slides or falling objects. The structures are all very dated, with the main ranch house having been constructed on-site approximately 101 years ago.

#### **Procedure**

Each structure was examined and photographed to document existing conditions prior to initiation of any blasting. A description of each structure, including construction, foundation and present condition is provided in this report, along with numerous photos on Plates 3 through 21. It should be noted that the purpose of this survey is to document pre-blast conditions of the structures and not to try and predict or assess potential for damage from blasting.

#### **Structure Descriptions**

Ranch House – The ranch house is basically wood construction with a layered rock foundation. The interior walls and ceilings are covered with embossed tin, and the exterior walls are covered with wood siding. The flooring is tongue and groove wood with linoleum covering. The roof is also tin. There has been a small addition to the south west corner of the house. This was originally a small porch, which has since been enclosed. The addition has paneling inside along with a drop ceiling. According to Mr. Sorensen, the house was a Sears and Roebuck package, constructed on-site in 1910. The original house consisted of 5 rooms and 2 porches. As mentioned above, a 6<sup>th</sup> room was added later by enclosing one of the porches. The majority of the house is original, including the walls, ceilings, flooring and windows. According to the owner, only 2 windows have been replaced. The house has no indoor plumbing, although there is a sink and a toilet inside. Water is provided to these facilities with a bucket or other container. Also, the house is not wired for power.

Estimating the condition of a 100+ year-old house is very subjective. Compared to a newer, modern house, the condition may be considered poor; however, for a house of this age, I would consider it in fair to good condition. The house appears to have very little damage, except for wear on the floors and some sagging on the porch and steps. There were no broken windows observed during this survey. Because the interior walls and ceilings are mostly tin, the photos show some gaps at the overlap of the materials. There are some wall and ceiling areas where some "waving" is evident, but it doesn't appear to be actual damage or separation of the materials. Numerous photos were taken of both the interior and exterior of the ranch house. These are shown on Plates 3 through 13 of this report. The photos will provide the best assessment of the existing condition of the structure.

<u>Guest House</u> – The guest house is wood construction inside and out, and sits on a plank on rock foundation as shown on Plate 14. The interior has paneled walls, linoleum floor and sheetrock ceiling. The owner said it was a motel cabin that has been moved onto the site. The house has no plumbing or power. It does have a wood/coal stove, three multi-pane windows and a newer aluminum storm door.

The interior of the guest house is in relatively good condition. The only existing damage noted inside is some cracking in the linoleum flooring at a seam and near the doorway. The exterior of the structure is mostly unfinished, rough wood. One area of concern is some of the vertical plank foundation supports are shifting, leaving some potential for future settling. The interior and exterior views of the guest house, along with photos of the areas described above, are shown on Plates 14 and 15.

<u>Shed / Garage</u> – The shed / garage building is described on the map as wood construction with a dirt floor, open front and no foundation. It also has a sloped, tin roof and tin back wall. The structure is used primarily for material and equipment storage.

The building is obviously quite old. It does appear to be of substantial construction, and according to the owner, has withstood large

accumulations of snow with no serious damage. It does show signs of extreme weathering, but no structural failure. The condition is best determined by the photos in Plates 16 and 17.

<u>Barn</u> – This structure is also wood construction with a dirt floor and no foundation. It does have a galvanized tin roof. As with the adjacent shed / garage, it shows a considerable amount of age and weathering. It also appears to be of substantial construction, and although there are a number of gaps in the wood siding and some slumping of the large doors, there doesn't appear to be any structural failure. Photos of the barn are shown on Plate 18.

**Granary** – The granary is located southeast of the ranch house, as shown on Plates 1 and 2. It is also of wood construction with no actual foundation, although the entire structure is elevated and sits on wood blocks. It has a wood floor and tin on the bottom of the building to keep out rodents. It appears to be well built and shows no sign of structural failure, although the exterior is extremely weathered. The elevated wood block supports do show some tilting in spots, but the building still appears level and stable at this time. Photos of the exterior of the granary are shown on Plates 19 and 20.

<u>Trailers</u> – There are 2 trailers on the site. One is a newer mobile home, and was only documented in a photo. It is sitting on wheels, and has little, if any, potential for damage from blasting. The other trailer is an older 5<sup>th</sup> Wheel type trailer supported by steel drums and elsewhere by wooden blocks. The owner referred to this trailer as the "Motel". Once again, there is little, if any, potential for damage to this trailer from blasting. The condition of both trailers can be seen on Plate 21.

<u>Artesian Well</u> – The well is located west of the ranch house. According to the owner it produces approximately 65 gpm, and is used primarily to water

livestock on the site. It should be noted that this well is monitored on a regular basis by a hydrologist working for Alton Coal Development, LLC. Any damage or decrease in flow from this well would best be determined by the hydrologic monitoring. The exposed portion of the well is shown on Plate 21.

Plate 1 – General Location Map of Sorensen Ranch and Mine Permit Area

Plate 2 – Aerial View of Sorensen Ranch Structures

Plate 3 – Ranch House Exterior

Plate 4 - Ranch House Exterior

Plate 5 – Ranch House Exterior

Plate 6 - Ranch House Exterior

Plate 7 - Ranch House Exterior

Plate 8 - Ranch House Interior

Plate 9 - Ranch House Interior

**Plate 10-Ranch House Interior** 

**Plate 11-Ranch House Interior** 

Plate 12-Ranch House Interior

**Plate 13-Ranch House Interior** 

Plate 14-Guest House Interior

Plate 15-Guest House Exterior

Plate 16-Shed / Garage

Plate 17-Shed / Garage

Plate 18- Barn

Plate 19-Granary

Plate 20-Granary

**Plate 21-Trailers and Artesian Well** 





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C. MCCOURT	ECP
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COAL HOLLOW PROJECT ALTON, UTAH

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